

WHEREAS, behavioral health is essential to overall health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of prevention and effective treatment of mental and/or substance use disorders are significant – people in recovery achieve healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally, and contribute in positive ways to their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to realize mental health and substance use disorders are treatable and people should seek treatment for these conditions with the same urgency as they would any other health condition; and

WHEREAS, National Recovery Month increases awareness that treatment works, recovery is possible and benefits everyone; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are asked to celebrate this year's recovery theme – *Join the Voices for Recovery: It's Worth It;*

NOW, *THEREFORE*, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

Recovery Month

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 3rd day of August, 2012

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

